

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, EAID, PK
SUBJ: MEETING WITH DR. NORMAN BORLAUG, CIMMYT

1. DR. BORLAUG CALLED ON AMBASSADOR HUMMEL AUG. 9 AND MET WITH MISSION STAFF WHO ARE WORKING ON PAKISTAN'S WHEAT PROBLEMS. BORLAUG IS IN COUNTRY IN CONNECTION WITH WHEAT SEMINAR BEING HOSTED AUG. 12-14 BY THE PAKISTAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH COUNCIL AND WILL MAKE TWO MAJOR ADDRESSES DURING THAT TIME FOCUSING ON PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE OF WHEAT PRODUCTION.

2. SHORT TERM ACTIONS REQUIRED ACCORDING TO BORLAUG ARE: A) PRICE INCENTIVES: B) PROVISION OF QUALITY SEED: AND C) DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS TO GET INPUTS TO FARMERS.

3. LONGER TERM ACTIONS REQUIRED ARE: A) REVAMPING AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH PRIORITIES AND PROCEDURES WHICH WILL PROVIDE NECESSARY AUTONOMY FOR ARC TO TAKE NEEDED ACTIONS NOW HAMPERED OR OFTEN NOT CARRIED OUT BECAUSE OF BUREAUCRATIC SNARLS AND CUMBERSOME PROCEDURES. HE STRESSED MOVING RESEARCH BACK TO FARMERS' LANDS: B) TRAINING OF A CADRE OF YOUNGER RESEARCH OFFICERS WHO CAN DEVOTE A NUMBER OF YEARS TO THE RESEARCH FIELD WITH COMMENSURATE REWARDS: C) MORE EMPHASIS ON FERTILIZER USAGE ESPECIALLY INCREASED USE OF PHOSPHATES: AND D) TACKLING THE WATER
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LOGGING AND SALINITY PROBLEMS WHICH HE REALIZES REQUIRES SIZEABLE CAPITAL INVESTMENT BUT WHICH HE FEELS IS A "MUST" IN IRRIGATED LANDS.

4. BARANI AGRICULTURE HOLD PROMISE FOR MAKING AN IMPORTANT DIFFERENCE IN WHEAT PRODUCTION ACCORDING TO BORLAUG AND CIMMYT IS PROVIDING AN ADVISOR TO ARC

IN THIS AREA OF DEVELOPMENT.

5. BORLAUG AGREES WITH US THAT WHEAT USED IS A
CRITICAL FACTOR IN A PRODUCTION STRATEGY BOTH FOR THE
NEAR AND LONG TERM. RESEARCH AND MULTIPLICATION
MUST BE KEY ACTIVITIES.

1. DR. BORLAUG HOPES TO BE ABLE TO SEE THE CMLA
WHILE HERE TO DISCUSS RESEARCH AND PRODUCTION
STRATEGIES AND WILL EMPHASIZE POINTS MISSION HAS BEEN
MAKING IN THESE AREAS. IN RESPONSE TO AMB HUMMEL'S
REQUEST, DR. BORLAUG WILL GIVE US HIS IDEAS ON
PRIORITIES IN THE RESEARCH FIELD AT THE END OF HIS
VISIT.
HUMMEL

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